

WELCOME TO MOSCOW!

(Continued from page 1)

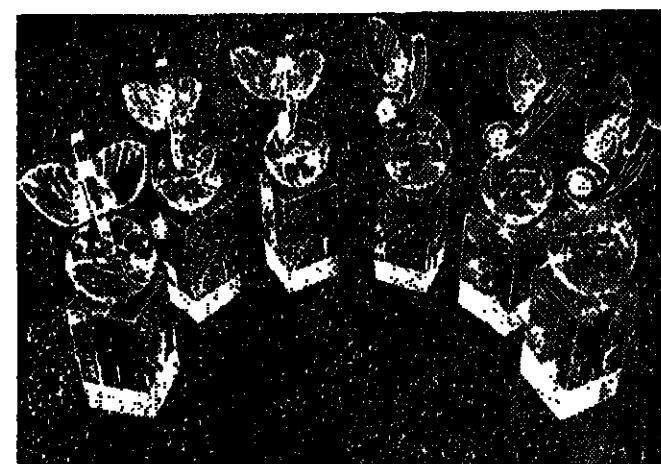
world and European championships and various major international events. They toured many countries with exhibition performances. And all of them at various times competed in our tour teams.

We have always eagerly watched the performance of stars and not only give credit to their mastery but also try to assimilate the best in their techniques and compositional elements. We still do not feel shy to learn from others. We, too, have many visitors here trying to find out the reason for the precipitous growth of our skaters' skills.

The current tournament will be no exception. Noted coaches of foreign skaters and shooting groups of specialists will watch out for details to study and will exchange views and experience.

Our tournament is called a tournament of hopes and discoveries. Not just skaters but their coaches, too, enter the competition for the "Crystal Skate". Not for nothing Tatyana Tarasova, who coaches European and world champions Misukovits Natalya Besimyanova and Andrei Bukin, once said at a press conference:

"The 'Moscow News' Prize is my favourite and most important of all international tournaments of the season. In my ca-



Even in the jubilee contest the editors have decided against departures from the well-established procedure of awarding the Crystal Skate (picture) to the winners. From the organizers' point of view the crystal ball on a stand with a skate which looks like sliding across ice gives the fullest expression to the speed, delicacy and mastery of skating. The six prizes involved are awarded to pairs, individual men and women skaters and to figure skaters. The prizes are identical. Each weighs more than five kilograms and is nearly 40 centimetres high. The Crystal Skate was designed by Mikhail Kizlov, chief artist of the Dyakovo crystal factory (Bryansk Region). A master glass blower, and a man who loves sports, particularly figure skating, he did all he could for the prize to be appreciated by the winners.

As a coach I first inaugurated internationally my charges here. We coaches, show at every year's tournament, like at general rehearsals, the fruits of our half-a-year's toil on new programmes for the first time.

Judging are not only very knowledgeable umpires but also Moscow fans. Thus for me the reception one gets on the Moscow ice is a sort of a tuning fork to test a new programme's "purity of sound".

ANATOLY KARPOV ON WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

In our previous issue we reported the Soviet win in the first ever men's world chess championship. Our correspondent Viktor Bobkin interviewed Soviet team captain and triple world champion, Anatoly Karpov, right on the heels of the event in Lucerne, Switzerland.

Q: What are your feelings after this tough competition in which Soviet Grandmasters had their share of troubles?

A: We all are certainly pleased to have seen up the title practically with a round left to go because the championship indeed proved hard sailing for us. But when things seemed to be getting out of hand, especially after we lost to Hungary, we rallied for the other rounds.

Q: Are you satisfied with your performance as team leader?

A: I am more or less content

'White caravan' sets out with sensation

Owing to lack of snow at Courmayeur, Italy, the opening stage of the world alpine skiing cup took place in another Italian town, Sestriere.

A novelty was announced shortly before that — after the first run in the slalom and the giant slalom the top 30 continue in contention, something which drew, even at trial runs before the "World series" cup, opposition from most noted skiers. They argued that the younger opponents would spoil the course, thus nullifying their advantage. It turned out they had enough cause to complain.

Already in the first special slalom totally unknown Yugoslav Roko Petrovic, 19, placed second in both runs and won overall. The youth dreaming of becoming a parapsychologist, clocked 1.40.79.

His compatriot Bojan Krizaj, who dominated the event in the "World series", ran up with 0.74 sec behind, while another unknown sportsman, Italian Ivano Edlmi, placed third.

The top three were ahead of aces like Swede Ingemar Stenmark (who has won a record of 79 cup stages), world champion Jonas Nilsson, Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg, and Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland.

So the next stages will show whether the victory for the "strangers" was an exception or that novices will set the pace this season.

with the sports aspect. Although I had good chances against Eric Lobron, who played on the final board for West Germany, I just did not have enough physical strength and I let him out of my "net". However, I had two good wins playing France and China.

Q: What are the plans of the team's members and specifically yours?

A: Right after the Lucerne event many of them will have to immediately start preparing for new and no less important events. Rafael Vaganian will take on Andrei Sokolov in a challenger tournament semi-final match, while Artur Yusupov still even does not know who his opponent will be in a similar match — that he will know after an extra match between Mikhail Tal of the USSR and Jan Timman of Holland, who shared fourth-fifth place in the challenger tournament. For my part, I will also have to do much analytical work as regards my recent Moscow match with Garri Kasparov and prepare for a return match.

The next championship is due in four years' time.



● Soviet strikers attacking. Photo by Sergei Prokhorov

Soviet and Hungarian water polo teams meet regularly and that helps their coaches prepare both countries' national teams for various tournaments. Recently the teams clashed in the games in Moscow. The visitors won the first match 5-4 and lost the other 6-11.



EDITORIAL BOARD

Address: 16/2 Gorky St. Moscow, USSR.
Printed at the "Izvestia" Press.
Published Tuesday and Saturday.
Index 50078.

MN INFORMATION No. 12, 1985

The Soviet Union's seventh census

A regular census of the USSR population, the seventh in the history of the Soviet state, will take place in January 1989.

The census will provide exhaustive information on the number of people, national composition and distribution of the population over the Soviet territory. It will also cover educational levels, placement in different branches and labour reserves.

The information will be indispensable in devising overall plans for the economic and social development of the USSR and individual constituent republics and also help work out long-term plans. It will provide a basis for the development of demographic forecasts and for the study of the tendencies in numerical changes, composition and territorial distribution of the population since the 1979 census.

A sample census will be held in December, 1988, in some parts of the country so as to study all the aspects and practical assistance needed by census officials who previously took part in census.

96 (712), DECEMBER 17-20, 1985

Price 5 kopeks

Saddam Hussain in Moscow



Welcoming the Iraqi president at the airport.

Saddam Hussain, Chairman of the Council of the Revolutionary Command, President of the State of Iraq, arrived in Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet leadership for a working friendly visit. The airport he was met by President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Andrei Gromyko and other officials.

Armand Hammer prospections for the development Soviet-American trade and economic relations

Armand Hammer, chairman of the board of the US Occidental Petroleum, has stated that the USSR is a most important market for the oil and gas. (MFN) trading with the Soviet Union, why wouldn't it grant the MFN trading status to the Soviet Union? A. Hammer asked. The USA has granted such status to some allies of the Soviet Union.

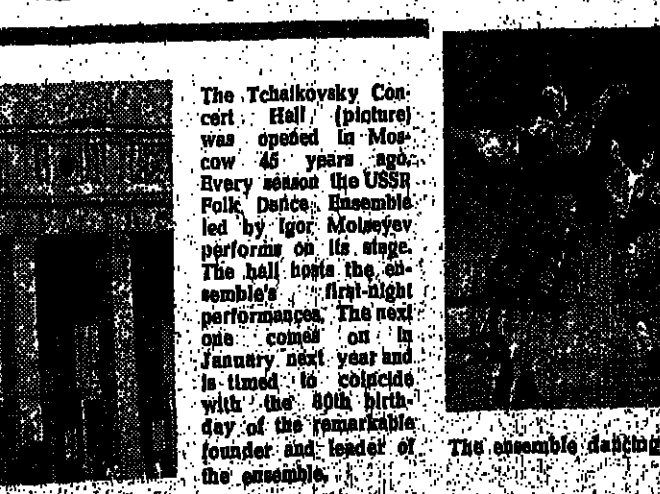
A. Hammer emphasized that an improvement of relations in trade would inevitably result in the building of confidence between the two countries, and, ultimately, in better political relations.

Hammer expressed the hope that this obstacle to the development of Soviet-American trade would be removed in the future, possibly, next year. He said that for his part he would do his utmost to ensure

Armand Hammer said that the trade between the United States and the Soviet Union in the field of trade had begun to improve after the summit between President Ronald Reagan of the United States and Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Hammer's opinion is that



A young Danish girl taking part in an anti-war demonstration. Anti-war protesters in Denmark are becoming increasingly active in the fight for peace, and a curb on the arms race. They advocate for a nuclear-free zone in Northern Europe and non-proliferation of the arms race in outer space.



The Tchaikovsky Concert Hall (picture) was opened in Moscow 45 years ago. Every season the USSR Folk Dance Ensemble performs on its stage. The hall hosts the ensemble's first-night performances. The next one comes on in January next year and is titled: "In celebration with the 80th birthday of the remarkable founder and leader of the ensemble."

The ensemble, dating from 1940. Photo by Andrei Stepanov

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

TV bridge brings five continents together

In January this year, the leaders of six countries on the five continents held a conference in New Delhi at which they appealed to all governments, parliaments and nations to vigorously fight against the threat of nuclear war. The appeal has found a broad response everywhere among people of goodwill, including the Soviet citizens, writes Pravda.

The newspaper's correspondent A. Tolkunov reports from San Francisco that an influential American public organization, Beyond War, has awarded its annual prize to the authors of the New Delhi Declaration: President Raul Alfonsin of Argentina, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the President of Mexico, Miguel de la Madrid, former Tanzanian President Julius K. Nyerere, Prime Minister of Sweden Olof Palme, and the Greek Prime Minister, Andreas Papandreu. On that day, communications satellites focused on several halls in San Francisco, the UN Headquarters in New York, and also places in Mexico, Buenos Aires, New Delhi, Stockholm, Athens, and Dar es Salaam.

(Continued on page 1)



The above picture shows the start of the Peace Marathon, the first in the history of Boston, USA. Participating were more than 1,500 people. The aim of the Marathon was to attract the American public's attention to the anti-war movement, the struggle to curb the arms race and for disarmament; the struggle to ease international tension, for mutual understanding and trust among peoples, primarily between the USSR and USA.

Volleyball: WORLD CUP RESULTS

The USSR men's team beat Japan 3-0 in their closing world cup match.

The US placed first by winning all their games, the USSR came second, Czechoslovakia — third.

Tenth title

The Central Navy Club has drawn 6-5 with Kiev Dynamo to win their tenth national water polo cup.



ATTENTION, SUBSCRIBERS ABROAD

DEAR READERS,

"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world reported by TASS and foreign news agencies.

Nothing short of the material carried in the editions of both "Moscow News" and "MN In-

formation" gives you a full idea of life in the Soviet Union for the week.

Subscription to "Moscow News" and "MN Information" can be taken out with the following firms.

AFGHANISTAN

● Bahaki Book Publishing and Import Organization Kabul

ALGERIA

● SNED Service abonnement 47, Rue Didouche Mourad El-Djizak

ARE

● Al-Ahram Al-Qasbi St. Cairo T ARE

CANADA

● Northern Book House, P.O. Box 1000, Gravenhurst, Ont., POC 1G0

● Vapour Publishing Co. Ltd., 1088 Paper Ave., Toronto, Ont., M4K 3W3

● Progress Books, 71 Bathurst St., 3rd Floor, Toronto, Ont., M5V 2P8

● Librairie Nouvelles Frontières Inc., 183 rue Ontario est P.Q. H2X 1H3

● Book World, 118 Avenue Road, Toronto, Ontario

● Canada-USSR Association Inc., Friendship House, 280 Queen St. W., Toronto, Ont., M5V 2A1

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

● Xunhasaba 32 Bd. Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi

● All post offices in the country

For all questions involving non-receipt of the paper, delivery of the paper to a new address, etc., please contact the firm from whom you obtained the subscription.

DEAR READERS! In other countries subscription for "MN Information" can be taken out with companies which do business with V/O Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga. The "Moscow News" weekly is available in Russian as well. Contact the firm or agency handling subscription for Soviet periodicals to subscribe.

SUPPORT FOR NUCLEAR MORATORIUM

Canberra. A new Australian public organization, Action Group in Support of Moratorium, favours the idea of a moratorium on any nuclear blasts. It comprises members of the Australian Democratic Party, the Australian branch of the International Greenpeace environmental protection organization and other groups.

The fact that the Soviet Union has declared a unilateral moratorium on nuclear blasts is incontestable evidence of its peaceful intentions, opines "The Guardian", a newspaper published by the Socialist Party of Australia. We need to create conditions to exert maximal international pressure on the US and its allies to make them positively react to the Soviet moratorium, the newspaper writes.

UN CALLS FOR NUCLEAR-FREE ZONES

New York. The UN General Assembly has called for the creation of nuclear-free zones in the Middle East and Africa, and has said it favours consolidation of the treaty banning nuclear weapons from Latin America.

In a series of resolutions on these issues, the international community noted the serious concern caused by Israeli and South African nuclear preparations which threaten universal peace and security. It condemned any forms of cooperation with the South African racists and demanded that they be terminated.

It was with serious concern that the General Assembly noted Israel's stubborn refusal to undertake not to manufacture or acquire nuclear weapons,



Tamed lion.



Drawing by Vladimir Sviridov

STATEMENT BY SAUDI ARABIAN PATRIOTS

Damascus. Bahraini patriots organizations, the Front for National Liberation of Bahrain and the People's Front of Bahrain, have issued a joint statement demanding an end to the persecution of progressive and democratic figures by the authori-

STATEMENT BY SAUDI ARABIAN PATRIOTS

Damascus. Bahraini patriots organizations, the Front for National Liberation of Bahrain and the People's Front of Bahrain, have issued a joint statement demanding an end to the persecution of progressive and democratic figures by the authori-

MOZAMBIQUE RAPS SOUTH AFRICA

Maputo. President Samora Machel of Mozambique has highly commended his country's relations of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union. Addressing a session of the National Assembly, he said the recent visit to the USSR by a Mozambican party and government delegation has be-

MOZAMBIQUE RAPS SOUTH AFRICA

come a new step along the road to strengthening these relations. Samora Machel condemned the racist regime in South Africa for violating its commitments to stop supporting gangsters of the so-called Mozambique National Resistance (MNR). In effect, he said, this terrorist grouping has turned into an appendage of the South African army.

In recent months, the popular liberation forces of Mozambique, actively assisted by the population, have carried out a number of successful operations to clear the country's territory from the MNR gangs. Hundreds of terrorists have been captured together with large quantities of arms and military equipment, and thousands of Mozambicans are again leading a peaceful life, he said.

Yuri KURITSYN



VIEWPOINT

USSR for active interaction with non-aligned movement

Moscow has on various occasions confirmed its support for the collective policy of non-aligned nations and its allegiance to close cooperation with them on the world arena. Addressing a recent session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Mikhail Gorbachev emphasized the tremendous importance of interaction with the non-aligned movement to improve the world situation.

The formula "interaction" itself presupposes not just a convergence of interests and positions of the USSR and non-aligned states on various world problems, but their joint practical efforts to implement common ideals and goals. What unites them is a common interest of the socialist and developing nations — which form the majority in the non-aligned movement — in cementing world security and creating a political climate on Earth to ensure for all peoples the real right to independence and progress.

They have done a lot, too, to end the arms race and lessen the danger of nuclear war, to achieve disarmament and eliminate the vestiges of colonialism and racism, to curb imperialism's

neocolonial onslaught on the sovereignty and resources of liberated nations. Significantly, in recent years every session of the UN General Assembly has witnessed a consistently growing interaction in peace-making efforts of socialist and non-aligned countries in that most important world community forum. Ever more frequently they co-sponsor resolutions and other UN documents and jointly back all initiatives aimed at strengthening peace and security, no matter who tables them.

True, this cooperation is not absolutely free of difficulties. There are quarters which abhor it. Not accidentally, too, some Western nations have been busy monitoring how each non-aligned nation votes at the UN and with whom, so as to build their relations with such countries on that basis. They also produce various "concepts" and "theories" to split up the non-aligned movement, isolate it from other forces sharing its principles and objectives, divert the attention of young independent states from vital current problems and strip them of the opportunity to actively participate in the solution of these problems.

Quite revealing in this respect is the notion of "equal responsibility" of the two superpowers for the current very bad situation in the world. This is meant to conceal the real facts and distort the truth. They claim that the US and the USSR are allegedly accountable for all the world's woes, pretending that there is no difference whatsoever between the USSR's practical measures in response to appeals by the non-aligned movement to curb the nuclear arms race and the US "sterile" response to these appeals; that there is no difference between perennial Soviet aid to national independence fighters as part of the UN Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (adopted on Soviet initiative), and the US inclination to sabotage the implementation of this declaration and its war against national-liberation movements under the pretext of "fighting terrorism" or defending its "vital interests".

Let us take regional conflicts. Who is to blame, say, for the tensions in Southern Africa and who hinders attempts to lessen them? The answer is clear: South Africa, its apartheid system and colonial domination over the Namibian people, as well as the ruling circles in some Western powers supporting it. Yet, there are quarters seeking to sell Africans the idea of "rivalry" in Africa of the "two superpowers" thus obstructing the elimination of the real causes of difficulties facing the peoples in the region.

The productive cooperation of the USSR and its socialist allies with the non-aligned movement presupposes, too, a better understanding of each other's goals and intentions. Thus we are optimistic about a recent exchange in Moscow of views between Soviet leaders and the head of the movement's coordinator. The USSR reaffirmed the specially important role of the non-aligned movement as a factor working for peace, equality, freedom and independence of peoples, while President Robert Mugabe spoke highly of the Soviet Union's policy of peace aimed at strengthening world peace and universal security and at supporting countries and peoples fighting for national emancipation and social progress.

This, and also the similarity of Soviet and Zimbabwean positions on major international problems underscored during the talks, indicate that the key interests of the socialist and developing countries, including non-aligned nations, tally, and the possibilities for their cooperation are very broad.

INDIA WARNS

New Delhi. Director of the Indian Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis, K. S. Kishan, has warned that Pakistan's ambition to make clear weapons with American connivance is a serious threat to peace, security and stability in southern Asia.

Speaking on All-India Radio, he said that since 1972 Pakistan has been working on its atomic bomb. Over the years, he has bought the necessary equipment from Western countries through secret channels, got trained its own experts in clear physics. As a result, Pakistan makes enriched uranium which it does not use for peaceful purposes. K. S. Kishan pointed out that Pakistan has pursued its programme with open connivance of the United States.

Alfred Nzo: THE STRUGGLE INTENSIFIES

Harare. The General Secretary of the African National Congress of South Africa, Alfred Nzo, has stated that the apartheid regime is going through a profound political and economic crisis. Speaking in an interview in Harare, he said that all the attempts by the authorities to break up the popular protest movement by force of arms are futile. The Pretorian government does not wish to heed the voice of reason and ignores demands by the country's absolute majority. A campaign of terror and murder unleashed on the patriots has been intensifying. The understanding black leader Nelson Mandela is still in prison.

Sooner or later the patriots will have to answer for their crimes, said Alfred Nzo. Significantly, the role of the white class has been going in the current revolutionary development. It is in the rank of the anti-racist movement. The African National Congress is moving towards more intensive armed struggle. It urges the stepping up of the campaign to completely isolate the apartheid regime and introduction of compulsory sanctions against it.

One-third of all children in Haiti live in the capital, the richest nation — live in poverty. Haitian rulers murdering the country.

TV bridge brings five continents together

(Continued from page 1)

Capitals on the five continents appeared on a special screen in one of the conference halls at the UN Headquarters. There is no way of treating a nuclear disease other than preventing it, said the Soviet Prime Minister, Gorbachev.

Our initiative is finding an increasing response and support, said the Indian Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi, addressing the world from another continent. We are proposing that the "limited nuclear war" doctrine and preparations for "star wars" be countered with specific steps towards lasting peace, he added.

troops operating under veil of secrecy

According to American press reports there has been a sharp rise in the number of US special forces sent abroad to carry out operations of sabotage and punitive actions. Despite the veil of secrecy shrouding the movements of these professional soldiers, it is obvious that they are to translate into reality the needs of the American Security Council which authorizes American military and diplomatic agencies to interfere in the domestic affairs of other countries, topple governments and instigate revolutions in conspiracies, political and blackmail.

FACTS and EVENTS

An open session of a special revolutionary court in Karachi tried a group of terrorists of the counter-revolutionary Islamic organization. The court sentenced two bandits to death and two to various terms of imprisonment.

Philippine prisoners in all jails in Manila, El Bira and other parts of the country have gone on a hunger strike in support of other prisoners. 3,000 patriots started a strike in other jails.

More than 150 former members of the Pot Pot gangs surrendered to local police agencies in the Kampong province of Kampuchea. A news agency reports.

The group of American doctors confined in numerous reports of large-scale brutal torture of mostly young people aged between 16 and 25. The report stresses that in many cases torture is used not only to extract information but also to intimidate and break the will of the regime's opponents.

century rulers murdering the country

Washington. Life to the overwhelming majority of Haiti's population is like a nightmare, states a report distributed here by the religious organization, Pax Christi. Peasants are deprived of land and work while infant mortality has reached unprecedented dimensions. The population lives in constant terror of the Tontons Macoutes, the paramilitary units who extort money, jail and torture everyone who opposes them.

As a result of the many-year domination by dictator Duvalier's family, political, economic and social oppression have become deeply rooted in the Haitian society. The regime is murdering its own country, says a Haitian Catholic priest quoted by the report. People live in fear and have no guarantees. If you talk about justice, you are regarded as a Communist.

More than one thousand white planters have been driven from Haiti by the army. A group of states in Cape Town have agreed to a survey showing that the country's profile was made. The survey shows that the country's profile was made. The survey shows that the country's profile was made.



American Rangers checking their combat readiness at one of their training bases in the United States.

AMERICAN DOCTORS CONFIRM TORTURES IN CHILE

Washington. Shootings, arrests, torture and disappearances of prison inmates are rampant in Chile today, stressed a group of American doctors who recently visited that country. They met some political prisoners and other victims of the Pinochet regime.

Chilean leaders constantly violate human rights on a mass scale, their report states. The authorities primarily repress poor people as well as public and political activists who defend human rights and help the junta's victims.

The group of American doctors confirmed numerous reports of large-scale brutal torture of mostly young people aged between 16 and 25. The report stresses that in many cases torture is used not only to extract information but also to intimidate and break the will of the regime's opponents.

ULTRASOUND CRUSHES STONE

Edar, a French firm, has worked out a unique medical device which detects kidney stones in patients by means of echography and crushes them with ultrasound into fine powder.

ISOLATING FROM METAL

Fruit juice does not like to enter into contact with metals. But what should the pumps be made of? Engineers of an Italian company suggest that pulp and ready juice be transported by elastic pipes made of food polyethylene. Three rollers turning on one axis and squeezing the pipes force through the product with thrust. Thus a principle borrowed from animal nature forms the basis of this pump.

OF INTEREST

Like a detective story

When Mr. Lim, the owner of a Singapore poultry farm, noticed that the school of fish in a pond where he raised ducks was sharply diminishing, he first blamed the ducks. But soon he realized that the duck population had likewise been "reduced" by some 2,000 birds. Driven to despair, Mr. Lim lay on an ambush on the bank of the pond. Great was his surprise when he discovered that the pond was a six-metre-long python. What's more, the python was found to be the mastermind of a whole "gang" of six more reptiles. They were all caught and sent to the Zoo.

Science and technology

SOLAR GRAIN DRYER

An experimental model of grain dryer running on solar energy has been developed in one of the branches of the famous Swedish company, Alfa-Laval. In it grain dries directly under a solar collector.

This method of bringing grain to the needed condition is reported to be rather effective. Solar panels of the dryer, covering an area of a little more than 100 square metres, generate power equal to 100 kilowatts.

TOOTH DECAY VACCINE

Medical men at the University of Washington are working on a vaccine which will be an effective remedy against tooth decay. This vaccine will help prepare antibodies against streptococcal bacteria. A kind of permanent immunity against these bacteria will develop in a person.

ULTRASOUND CRUSHES STONE

Edar, a French firm, has worked out a unique medical device which detects kidney stones in patients by means of echography and crushes them with ultrasound into fine powder.

ISOLATING FROM METAL

Fruit juice does not like to enter into contact with metals. But what should the pumps be made of? Engineers of an Italian company suggest that pulp and ready juice be transported by elastic pipes made of food polyethylene. Three rollers turning on one axis and squeezing the pipes force through the product with thrust. Thus a principle borrowed from animal nature forms the basis of this pump.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

GENEVA ACCORDS SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED

It is already clear to all that the Geneva summit was a singular political event, PRAVDA writes in an editorial. At this crucial stage in world affairs, when mankind faces a choice between survival and annihilation, the summit was indispensable and useful. Its outcome opens up opportunities for a changeover from dangerous confrontation to a constructive search for ways of normalizing Soviet-American relations and improving the world situation in general.

The Soviet side takes the Geneva accords most seriously and will strive to improve not just the general atmosphere but also Soviet-American relations on the basis of mutual respect and complete equality without any discrimination, continuing the editorial. The USSR is prepared in the spirit of honest interaction with the US, to work to limit the arms race, prevent its spread into outer space, and improve the world situation. We have every reason to expect a similar approach by the US, concludes the editorial.

SPACE WEAPONS—OBSTACLE TO PEACE

One of the dangers of the full-scale anti-missile defence in the spirit of the "star wars" is that the very short time required to establish thousands of targets, air weapons at them, evaluate the effectiveness of the strikes and perform other operations, practically precludes the man from decision-making. This greatly increases the number of tragic mistakes and accidents of all sorts, writes IZVESTIA. The question of whether mankind is to continue to exist will be decided by computers, not by the man, and hence also lies the concern. However good our opinion could be of the American politicians or generals, we still prefer to deal with them and not with their computers, even though these could be of the sixth generation.

The fourth round of the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on nuclear and space weapons starts next January. There are two packages of proposals — Soviet and American — to be discussed. In many respects, these proposals sharply differ. Nevertheless, they have points of contact. There is now a real possibility to start closing the gap between the two sides' positions and to look for a compromise and mutually acceptable solutions. However, the situation now is strange and almost paradoxical, as the weapons which are being designed can block reductions in the existing weapons.

UNWORTHY MOVE

The newspaper SELSKAYA ZHIZN regards as shortsighted Britain's decision to withdraw from UNESCO, stressing that it was taken as a result of Washington's campaign of pressure on its Western allies to quit UNESCO.

What has UNESCO done to cause Washington's displeasure? America hates UNESCO's principled approach to disarmament, the problem of establishing a new international order and its criticism of the Zionist and racist regimes in Israel and South Africa, which are both allies of the US. Having found itself unable to dictate its terms to UNESCO, the United States withdrew from it and did everything it could to make its partners take a similar unworthy move.

UNESCO is a highly prestigious body of the United Nations, one promoting peace and security, mutually beneficial scientific and cultural cooperation on equal footing. The continued attacks on UNESCO are aimed at undermining the United Nations organization and cut across the interests of the overwhelming majority of its member-states.

DANGEROUS ALLIANCE IN THE FAR EAST

Forty years after World War II and the routing of the fascist bloc in East Asia a new aggressive alliance, this time on a space and nuclear basis, is being set up, writes the NEW TIMES weekly.

The second largest troop concentration, after the West European one, has been created in Western Pacific. It consists of 100,000 American servicemen, 250,000 Japanese "self-defence forces" and 600,000 or more South Korean regular troops. A new military and political infrastructure, a military alliance between Washington, Tokyo and Seoul — actually, NATO's Far Eastern branch — has come into being.

As the "self-defence forces" become more powerful the more American aims find their way into Japan, the more dangerous the country becomes for its neighbours suspicious of and alarmed by its military policy, and the more pressing is the need for international measures to exclude the possibility of an armed conflict and to lower the level of military confrontation in the region. The latter can well become a region of mutually profitable cooperation of states with different social systems, the weekly stresses.



The gang of pythons (picture called from "The Straits Times")

Handwritten text in Arabic script, likely a note or signature.

Round the Soviet Union

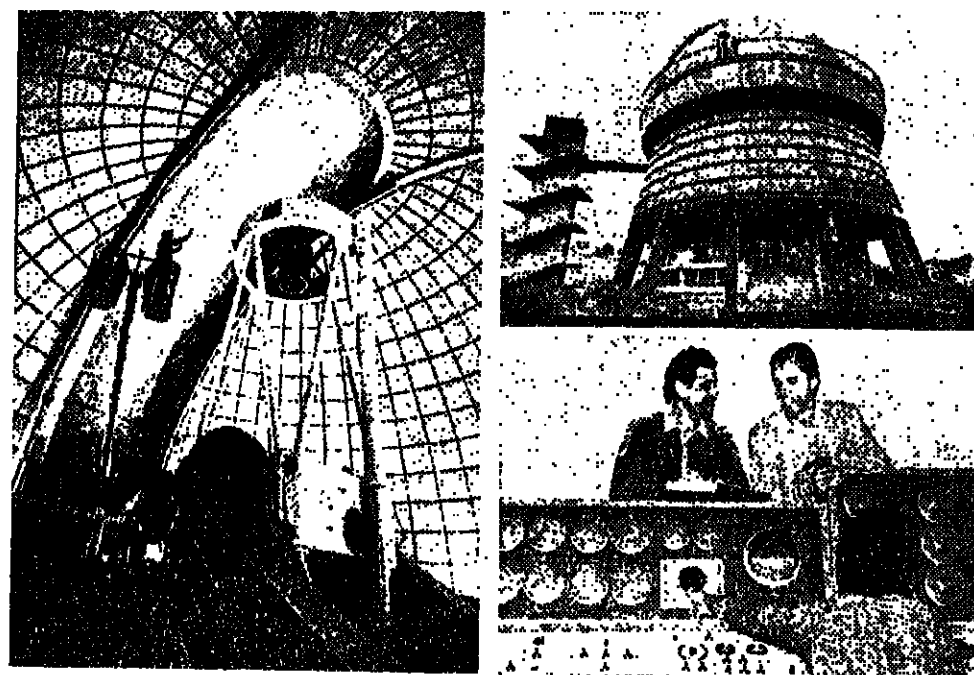
● A GROUP OF ISLANDS SITUATED NEAR THE WESTERN SHORE OF LAKE BAIKAL HAVE BEEN DECLARED MONUMENTS OF NATURE. Thanks to abundant flocks of swans, geese, ducks, and other waterfowl, this area is a haven for hunters, anglers and tourists. Only biologists from Irkutsk University will continue their investigations started here many years ago. Most of the nearly 30 islands on Baikal are under state protection for their scientific and ecological importance.

● A SPORTS AND HEALTH CAMP PROJECT DEVELOPED BY STUDENTS OF ZAPOROZHYE INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE IN THE UKRAINE HAS BEEN AWARDED A BRONZE MEDAL OF THE USSR EXHIBITION OF ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS. The future engineers have themselves implemented their project: in a picturesque corner of the Khorosha Island they have built a disease-prevention clinic, an aquatic station and a recuperation centre. The student design bureau has prepared technical documentation free of charge for the construction of other premises for this college, such as a hostel and training blocks.

● BUILDERS IN LATVIA (A SOVIET BALTIC REPUBLIC) HAVE BEGUN USING AN ORIGINAL CHEAP MATERIAL — POLYGRAN — TO PHASE BUILDINGS. It is based on finely ground bricks of ceramic tiles, the multicoloured mass of which is sprayed on walls by a pneumatic installation without preliminary preparation of the surfaces involved. This reduces the labour on finishing operations by half.

● THE NOODAN (CLIFF) EVENK FOLKLORE GROUP GAVE ITS FIRST PERFORMANCE AT THE YAKUT STATE MUSICAL THEATRE. The amateur artists of the Polar Bystry district showed a programme which included folk songs and dances, scenes from the life of reindeer-breeding and hunters. This company, led by graduates from the East-Siberian Institute of Culture, has been set up at the Indigirka state farm.

GUARDIANS OF THE UNIVERSE



Preparing the 6-metre telescope for the study of the mysteries of the Universe. ● The observatory. ● A Soviet scientist with his Italian colleague. Photos by the author

A twenty minutes ride in a car along a motorway will take one from the Armenian capital, Yerevan, to the silver-domed buildings of the Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory. This is one of the world's leading centres for the study of the Universe.

Byurakan's fame is linked with the name of its first and current Director, Academician Viktor Ambartsumyan, who has taught many astronomers, both Soviet and foreign.

Many discoveries made by Armenian astrophysicists are backed by a long-standing tradition — first in everything relating to the field. Byurakan astronomers were the first to discover the Galaxy which now bears the name of Armenian Academician Markaryan. Each success comes after years of intensive work. At night, astronomers carry out observations through a 6-metre telescope, and in the day they process and analyse the information obtained.

Yaroslav LYUBAVIN

DESERT

BECOMES FERTILE

In northern Tajikistan 1,500 hectares of fellow land have been put under cotton in the area of the Tashauz Canal now under construction. With the Tuzaymuyun HEP on the lower reaches of the Amudarya as its source, the canal will stretch for two hundred kilometres across the desert to supply water to thousands of hectares of arid lands. The first phase of the canal is being built simultane-

ously with a survey of new tracts of land in its zone. Irrigation and draining networks are also being laid while farmers are settling up settlements.

Land reclamation in Turkmenia is a difficult work. In some places fertile layers of soil have to be created over large patches of land, water has to be raised to uplands by means of entire series of powerful pumping stations, and irrigation

systems have to be constantly cleaned from silt and sand. Since the current five-year development plan period began, irrigators have reclaimed nearly 20,000 hectares of land which are now offering rich yields of cotton, rice and fodder crops.

During the next five-year plan (1986-1990) the second phase of the Tashauz Irrigation system will be built. It is expected to carry water to tracts of land covering an area of 300,000 hectares. This will raise the output of cotton in the Tashauz oasis by 160,000 tonnes.

Kursk fourth atomic power unit

A fourth power unit has gone into operation at the Kursk atomic power station in Central Russia. The other three operational units have already produced 113 billion kWh of electricity.

The construction of this station started in December 1960. Its first power unit was built in six years, whereas it took only half that time to make operational each of the three subsequent units. The acceleration was achieved through industrialization of construction and assembly methods and introduction of advanced technology. For example, the use of enlarged assembly sets proved very effective during construction of the fourth power unit. For the first time the face of the central room of the reactor section was sealed with assembly sets weighing up to 40 tonnes, which enabled assembly work to be completed twice as quickly.

Developing alongside the electric power plant is a modern city, Kursk, where the builders and power plant personnel live.

STEAM ENGINE TO COME BACK

That in the not too distant future steam locomotives will appear again on Soviet railways is strongly believed by specialists in Kharkov (a Ukrainian industrial centre), who have designed such locomotives. Although they differ greatly from their predecessors, they will continue to use coal to generate steam.

The old steam engine had to be discarded in the USSR largely due to its low efficiency. However the latest advances in science and technology and new structural materials make it possible to rectify the defect.

Outwardly the new generation machine will resemble today's locomotive. There will be no stoker, in the old sense of the word, as empowered coal will be fed into the furnace automatically. This will ensure maximum use of natural fuel and prevent air pollution. All the processes will be controlled by microprocessor and the engine's efficiency will increase 4-5 times.

Chaika — works turned over to schoolchildren

Every morning 800 senior pupils fill the shops of the Chaika experimental factory, which is completely turned over to them.

Schedule every pupil from 7 to 12 years old. Ninth and tenth grades spend six hours there, 11th and 12th — four. Master-classes of charge, one of the 12 trades offered them, they learn to actual work. Thus assemble microelectric motor, transistor unit in the sewing shop, and soldering iron in the electrical shop.

Girls also sew dresses for the factory's products (which sold to nearly 19 million within five years) and the children are paid adult wages. Participation in school-

ELECTRIC CAR OF THE 21st CENTURY

An unconventional hub motor has enabled scientists in Moscow and Novosibirsk to scrap such time-honoured attributes of the modern car as gearbox, clutch, propeller shaft and differential. The hub motor is nothing more than standard tyres mounted on rotors of small asynchronous electric motors suitable for their high dynamic qualities.

Outwardly, VAZ-28031 hardly differs from the Lada-pickup, a common sight on the roads of many countries. But a look under the engine hood will reveal the usual engine, which has been replaced with storage batteries. The car, which

Science and technology

ELECTRIC CAR OF THE 21st CENTURY

An unconventional hub motor has enabled scientists in Moscow and Novosibirsk to scrap such time-honoured attributes of the modern car as gearbox, clutch, propeller shaft and differential. The hub motor is nothing more than standard tyres mounted on rotors of small asynchronous electric motors suitable for their high dynamic qualities.

Outwardly, VAZ-28031 hardly differs from the Lada-pickup, a common sight on the roads of many countries. But a look under the engine hood will reveal the usual engine, which has been replaced with storage batteries. The car, which

doesn't have other important parts as well, nevertheless starts smoothly and accelerates without noise to a speed of 90 km/h.

At present all electric cars developed in the world are fitted with DC motors which are easy to handle and manufacture. A group of scientists at the Moscow Institute of Problems of Automatics and Telemetry used their own theory of zero-overshoot response to develop an AC drive-control system. The system is a new development in the control process and is not sensitive to changes in dynamic qualities of the car and to the gearbox, differential and clutch. It markedly increases reliability and simplifies the control system. The simple and comfortable new electric car is easy to maintain, and the hub motor consumes considerably less energy.

Experts believe that this ecologically pure car will be broadly used in the 21st century.

SAND HOUSES

Houses, palaces and factory premises can be built of sand covering the vast expanses of the Karakum and Kyzylkum deserts. This was proved by Uzbek scientists after developing a new wall material — barklankoren — three-quarters of which consist of sand. Plastic clays heaped on the surface of deserts are another cheap component.

A brick of barklankoren has been obtained with the method of sand pressing. Besides, owing to lower humidity of the raw material much fuel is saved in the process of firing. To make it stronger water is poured on the roasted barklankoren for a few minutes.

EXTRACTING MEDICINE FROM SHARKS

Scientists have commissioned Georgian fishermen to catch Black Sea species of shark. Known as catfish, these species are used in the manufacture of a medicine called catrex. Specialists note that it is effective in the treatment of chronic inflammations and that it stimulates the whole of the human body. It also raises the cell's resistance to toxic influence of harmful substances and restores the normal composition of the blood. The production of the preparation has been started at a biological enterprise in Georgia.

The Black Sea shark, which previously was not caught on an industrial scale, is the most ancient of its kind. Having inhabited the earth for three million years it has not undergone any significant changes. Its body has good resistance to environmental changes. Scientists believe that its unique biological properties possess specially active ferments and other substances.

After an extract of biologically active substances was singled out and subjected to meticulous tests, the scientists recognized it as a most promising medicine.

MOSCOW PATRIARCHY PUBLICATIONS

The Moscow Patriarchy Publishers have come out with the 20th volume of "Theological Works", its volumes published by the Russian Orthodox Church feature works by theologians and church historians of past and recent centuries as well as modern researchers who dwell on the life of Christian churches throughout the Christian epoch.

The 20th volume features the conclusion of Yevsey Pamyatnykh's "Church History of the 19th Century", reporting about the appearance of enemy troops and containing a request to send bread for a regiment lying

theologian Yevgeny Golubinsky in the mid-19th century to commemorate the millennium of the death of St. Constantine. Of much interest is an article by archimandrite Innokenty (Prosvirnin), assistant professor at the Moscow Theological Academy. It honours the centenary of the demise of bishop Evfimiy (Uspensky) and has important data on the life and works of this outstanding Russian orientalist, archaeologist, ethnographer, paleographer, student of Byzantinism and Slavism, Doctor of Ecclesiastical Literature and Theology.

VIEWPOINT

Culture In the countryside

Olga MARTYNYENKO

Some time ago when I was travelling on a train, I shared the compartment with a middle-aged man whose outlook betrayed what is called a "person of mental work". However, at the end of our conversation he admitted that he was chairman of a collective farm in Lithuania. He said his farm was moderately well-off and that the situation kept improving with every passing year. The reason for this was simple — people had begun to work better mostly because their conditions of life had changed. There are the same modern conveniences in the countryside as in the cities.

Besides, he said with a smile, our village is not far from the town of Panevezys which has, as you must have heard, a famous drama theatre. He actors are our frequent and welcome visitors.

It is true that not every farm is lucky to have a famous theatre in the town nearby. Not long ago a review of a permanent All-Union festival "Theatres in the Countryside" showed that theatre workers see it as their main mission to bring their art to rural audiences and to impart to them certain aesthetic and moral principles.

The urgent task set by the Party to achieve a radical turn in the better in the countryside is being solved not only by means of capital investments in production. The achievement of this mission requires the presence of the main factor — man of civic duty and of broad interests.

It would certainly be absurd if all aesthetic education were to be reduced to a narrow, pragmatic task of raising productivity. However, love for the soil, the sense of duty and awareness of one's involvement in the affairs of the entire country and of the entire world cannot be imparted without taking into account the cultural standards which make these fully notions quite tangible.

Recent years have been marked by appreciable changes in this direction. There is no musical or theatrical company in the USSR which does not consider it an honourable duty to perform in the countryside. A museum of paintings, sponsored by the Moscow Tretyakov Gallery, has been opened on the Rassvetl state farm in the Kursk Region, Russian Federation. An art gallery in the Ukrainian city of Lvov has helped a collective farm in that region set up a similar museum. The items on display are changed every six months. These are no isolated instances.

More and more people become involved in amateur companies and groups in the countryside, where amateur art helps people not only be appreciative as spectators, but also participants in the creative process.

It would be wrong, however, to imagine that all the problems in the artistic education of people in the countryside have been solved. Many are hindered by their own inertia and by some obsolete conceptions of purely material and financial order. However, the situation in this country is rapidly changing. Speaking freely about our shortcomings, we are looking for ways to overcome them. This fully applies to the cultural policies in the countryside, which are made up of the enthusiasm on the part of the population and the government's attention to their aesthetic demands.

Handwritten note: "The first time in the history of the USSR..."

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

CITY CONSERVATION MEASURES

The Moscow urban development organization Mosgorplan has devised a comprehensive plan to improve the Soviet capital's environment, reports the newspaper VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA. Next year, 90 million roubles is to be spent for the purpose.

The plan contains more than 60 different measures for reducing air pollution by road vehicles. Another 350 dust and gas purification installations will be set up, and nine harmful industries dismantled.

Protection of rivers and ponds in the city will be reinforced, and a 5.5 per cent increase is to be made in the amount of recycled water supplies as compared with this year. Improvements will be made in the use of a special industrial waterworks as an example for the entire country.

Serious problems are caused by increasing amounts of household and industrial waste. The problem will be tackled by the No. 1 Rubber works which uses as raw materials exhausted products. The Privy factory will start full operation of its facilities for processing polymer wastes which are to be recycled into thousands of tonnes of new products.

UFA OPHTHALMOLOGISTS Eye surgeons throughout the world operate on the cataract, the opaque process in the eye crystal resulting from an inflammatory ailment or birth injury only when a child is one or one and a half years old. But at this time surgery may prove futile.

Over 20 children between two to six months suffering from congenital cataract have been operated on at the children's department of the Ufa Eye Disease Institute in Bashkiria, a Russian Federation Autonomous Republic, IZVESTIA reports.

With assistance from specialists at the Institute of

Eye Microsurgery of the Russian Federation Public Health Ministry, a team of surgeons has emerged in Ufa — the first in East European Soviet Union. The team uses a technique worked out by Moscow Professor Svyatoslav Fyodorov for surgically removing short-sightedness. People now do not have to travel 1,500 kilometres to Moscow for such an operation. The Moscow Helmholtz Research Institute of Eye Diseases has helped set up in Ufa an eye contact correction laboratory which successfully treats every year over a thousand people suffering from astigmatism — a disease which delays even the most powerful spectacles, the newspaper concludes.

IMMUNITY AND ALCOHOL

Alcohol has a negative effect on all parts of the human body and weakens health, however strong it might initially be, writes the magazine NAUKA i ZHIZN.

Research carried out jointly by specialists at Louisville University, USA, and the Leningrad Physical Training Institute named after P. Lesgaft, has shown that the reason for this lies in alcohol damaging immune mechanisms. If alcoholism becomes chronic, the risk of contracting infection clearly increases. The most likely disease to hit an alcoholic is pneumonia. It runs a greater risk of tuberculosis, and cases of hepatitis are more frequent among alcoholics.

These diseases are caused by the weakening of the body's immune system. The parts usually affected are the lymphoid system, producing lymphocytes, the blood cells capable of destroying alien organisms which invade the body and cause diseases. It has been observed that alcohol disrupts blood formation and has direct effect not only on the production of T-lymphocytes, but also damages those in the blood, thus reducing their number.

The research provides the grounds for believing that chronic alcoholism causes high sensitivity to alcohol

or to some types of food used as raw materials in the production of alcohol. Such camouflage allergy to food can contribute to the development of alcoholism, which, in yet another proof of why the use of alcohol should be completely given up.

MEDICINAL POISON FROM STEPPE SPIDERS

Ten years ago, a strange order was placed with the Central Asian Centre of the All-Union Association of Zoocentres, which supplies zoos and pet shops with local animals. The order came from the Institute of Biochemistry of the Uzbek Academy of Sciences in Central Asia. They commissioned Zoocentre to deliver several hundred steppe spiders which they wanted to be caught in July-August when they are most poisonous.

The poisonous spiders, writes the newspaper SIBSKAYA ZHIZN, were needed to set up a unique spider farm whose staff members were testing methods of abstracting poison from female spiders. The scientists needed spider poison, odd though it may seem, for use as antidote in cases like paralytic and poisoning.

After a series of tests on various laboratory animals have confirmed the idea that spider poison could be re-used from the body by means of another poison. The move gives doctors unexpected prospects: the body's organs not only from toxic substances can enter; they can also be formed within, being produced by harmful microorganisms and cells, and in tissue inflammation following severe burns, etc.

The paradox in cases like this is pure spider poison, which, for the first time, has been singled out. The Institute, it is also effective against spider bites. The poison serves as a base for an effective vaccine applied to counteract the bites. The new vaccine is expected to be ready for use in a few years.

of underground

The first time in the history of the USSR, scientists at the Institute of Problems of the USSR Academy of Sciences have elaborated the UNESCO International hydrological programme drawing up a map of the underground rivers of the world.

The map will help utilize fresh waters lying on the surface of the earth's crust. A new map is based on actual material collected by scientists and their colleagues. It will also contain information obtained by means of space equipment.

The map will help solve the problem of water shortage on 60 per cent of the world's surface. Subsoil springs are particularly scarce in arid and semi-arid regions. According to experts, one-third of the world's water reserves are concentrated in underground rivers.

12th-century portrait

During excavations in the old Chernislina Street in Novgorod, a Russian city in the north-west of the country, archaeologists found a small sculpture skillfully carved of wood. It depicted a middle-aged man with vividly expressed features of Northern tribes. Possibly, this is one of the material evidence presented by the residents of Novgorod as a "report" about travels to cold areas.

Possibly this was a northern hunter or a reindeer-breeder. It could also be the leader of a tribe which paid a tax to Novgorod, or a guide who helped Russian explorers. Archaeologists also found other articles from northern expeditions as, for example, walrus tusks scratched on stone.

Blotch-bark scrolls were also found. The fact given in annals were confirmed in a scroll of the last third of the 13th century, reporting about the appearance of enemy troops and containing a request to send bread for a regiment lying

12th-century portrait

In ambush. The content of the scroll is tied in with the events of 1285, when Pskov, in which the regiment headed by Prince Yaroslav Yaroslavich lay in ambush, was threatened with enemy attack.

MOSCOW

PATRIARCHY PUBLICATIONS

The Moscow Patriarchy Publishers have come out with the 20th volume of "Theological Works", its volumes published by the Russian Orthodox Church feature works by theologians and church historians of past and recent centuries as well as modern researchers who dwell on the life of Christian churches throughout the Christian epoch.

The 20th volume features the conclusion of Yevsey Pamyatnykh's "Church History of the 19th Century", reporting about the appearance of enemy troops and containing a request to send bread for a regiment lying

12th-century portrait

In ambush. The content of the scroll is tied in with the events of 1285, when Pskov, in which the regiment headed by Prince Yaroslav Yaroslavich lay in ambush, was threatened with enemy attack.

MOSCOW

PATRIARCHY PUBLICATIONS

The Moscow Patriarchy Publishers have come out with the 20th volume of "Theological Works", its volumes published by the Russian Orthodox Church feature works by theologians and church historians of past and recent centuries as well as modern researchers who dwell on the life of Christian churches throughout the Christian epoch.

The 20th volume features the conclusion of Yevsey Pamyatnykh's "Church History of the 19th Century", reporting about the appearance of enemy troops and containing a request to send bread for a regiment lying

